MGMT 265 (Hybrid)
Business Law I

Early Fall 15/11
August 17 – October 10, 2015

Course Description

Fundamental principles of law relating to business activity. Extensive use of cases.
Prerequisite: Sophomore standing.

Class Day, Time and Room: Wednesday, 5:30pm – 8:30pm

This is a hybrid course which is defined as an online course supported by a weekly in-seat class. Our class will consist both in-seat and online instruction through various resources, discussion and homework. Please note that we will meet every week, unless otherwise noted.

You are expected to attend every class. If you know prior to the beginning of the session that you will miss more than one in-seat class, it is strongly recommended that you wait to take this course at another time.

The online portion of our course is located in D2L. You will access the course through CougarTrack.

Textbooks

ISBN: 978-1-111-53060-0

MBS Direct offers a Columbia College version of this text, ISBN: 978-1-285-13670-7
The Columbia College version contains only the chapters needed for this course.

Textbooks for the course may be ordered from MBS Direct:

- online at http://direct.mbsbooks.com/columbia.htm
- by phone at 800-325-3252

For additional information about the bookstore, visit http://www.mbsbooks.com.

Course Overview

In this course, you will be exposed to the fundamental principles of law as they relate to businesses and individuals. You will also become familiar with the process of legal reasoning through the discussion of case law and hypotheticals. There will be more emphasis on legal deduction, analogy, and reasoning than merely memorization.
Technology Requirements

Participation in this course will require the basic technology for all online classes at Columbia College:

- A computer with reliable Internet access,
- a web browser,
- Acrobat Reader,
- Microsoft Office or another word processor such as Open Office.

You can find more details about standard technical requirements for our courses on our site.

Course Objectives

This course is designed to meet the following objectives:

- To explore the legal process and reasoning.
- To explore the law, the constitutional aspects of law and business, criminal and tort law, contracts, and agency law.
- To explore the various forms of legal business organizations the requirements, and the characteristics.

Measurable Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Identify the different courts that make up the federal and state court systems and be able to describe the jurisdiction of both the federal and state courts.
- Describe and explain the role of common law and precedent in shaping the law of the United States.
- Describe and explain general constitutional principles and clauses, including separation of powers, federalism, the Equal Protection Clause, the Commerce Clause, and the 4th Amendment.
- Identify and understand the four requirements of a contract.
- Describe and explain the concepts of agency law, including the duties owed by agents to their principals and the liability of principals and agents to third parties with whom they do business.
- Describe the different business organization models within the U.S. and be able to describe the organization and operation of partnerships and corporations.
- Identify the elements of a negligence claim and understand the principles of causation and comparative fault.
- Describe and explain the difference between a civil claim and criminal prosecution as well as the differences between the civil and criminal law systems in the U.S.
## Grading

### Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>450-500</td>
<td>90-100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>350-399</td>
<td>70-79%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
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<td>60-69%</td>
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<td>F</td>
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### Grade Weights

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<tr>
<th>Assignment Category</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online Discussions (6)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-seat Assignment (8)</td>
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<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dropbox Assignments (8)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes (6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm &amp; Final Exams</td>
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### Schedule of Graded Assignments

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<th>Due In-Seat</th>
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<td>Sunday</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dropbox Assignment 1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Quiz 1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sunday</td>
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Assignment Overview

Chapter Readings, PowerPoints and other Self-Study Resources

All readings and lecture review should be completed prior to coming to the in-seat portion of class. I encourage you to take advantage of the additional resources available in the course. Each week there are PowerPoint Slides and tutorials available in the Content area of the course, as well as multimedia such as videos and infographics.

In-Seat Assignment (In Class)

Each week during our in-seat meeting time we will cover topics through various activities which may include class discussion, active (hands-on) learning, group work, videos or PowerPoints. Student participation is essential and regular attendance is expected. Your preparation and participation help to better facilitate discussions and activities and you and your fellow classmates benefit from your ideas and experiences.

Discussions (Online)

Online Discussion questions should be completed and posted in the Discussion area by 11:59 pm CT (Central Time) Friday of the assigned week. Posts should be placed in the discussion topic – do not use attachments and only make ONE post that contains all of the assignment. Post your discussion BEFORE you respond to others’ posts. Responses to two classmates’ discussion postings should be posted by 11:59 pm Sunday of the assigned week except for Week 8 (due Thursday and Friday, respectively).

To earn full credit for responses to other students’ discussion postings, students must post substantive responses to the week’s discussion postings. A substantive response conveys a specific and well-developed thought, idea, or comment about a posting. Full credit will not be earned for a one sentence comment or one or two word responses such as “I like what you posted,” “I agree with what you said,” “I learned a lot from your post,” “Good job,” “Nice Posting,” etc. Points will be deducted if you respond to classmates before you have posted your own discussion. This ensures that everyone is doing his/her own work and is not influenced by others’ discussion posts.

Dropbox Assignments (Online)

Dropbox Assignments are individual assignments that each student completes and uploads to the classroom Dropbox for the assigned week. Students are not permitted to collaborate on these assignments and they are not shared with the class. Dropbox assignments consist of researching and responding to specific topics/questions related to the week’s readings. Details will be posted in class under Content, Week 1, Week 5, and Week 7.

KEEP A COPY OF ALL ASSIGNMENTS AND E-MAILS UNTIL YOU HAVE RECEIVED A GRADE. A grade for an assignment will be confirmation it was received. You are responsible for keeping a copy of your assignment on disk AND on your computer so that you will be able to resubmit it if necessary.

Prior Course Work
You may not use work previously used/submitted for another college course. If you are repeating this course, you may not use the same topic for your week 7 paper.

Quizzes, Midterm and Final Exams (Online)
Quizzes and Exams are timed and scheduled for specific dates as set forth in the syllabus schedule. You are expected to take your quizzes and exams during the scheduled dates/times. If you fail to take them as scheduled, you will receive ZERO credit. Only in a documented emergency situation will I allow a make-up exam or quiz; hover, make-up exams/quizzes are much more difficult. Students who exceed the time limit for an exam or quiz (example: used 50 minutes on a 45 minute quiz) will receive ZERO credit.

Course Schedule

Week 1 – Introduction to Law, the Civil Dispute Process, & Constitutional Law

Readings (Before Class)
- Ch. 1 Introduction to Law
- Ch. 3 Dispute Resolution
- Ch. 4 Common law, Statutory Law, and Administrative Law (OMIT Administrative Law pp 87-96)
- Ch. 5 Constitutional Law (OMIT 5th Amendment pp 117-121)

Discussions (Online)
- **Introduction**: Post your introduction in the Week 1 Discussion folder labeled “Introductions.” Details on what to include (there are requirements) will be posted in class under Content, Week 1 - due by 11:59pm Friday.
- **Discussion 1**: This week we’ll discuss jurisdiction, dispute resolution, and constitutional law concepts. Details will be posted in class under Content, Week 1 - due by 11:59pm Friday. NOTE: Make ONE post with all of the discussion assignment. To develop and maintain a flow of discussion, students are required to post at least 2 substantive responses to other students’ postings in the Week 1 Discussion forum by 11:59 pm Sunday. See Grading criteria above for explanation of substantive responses.

Participation 1 (In Class)
Participation activities vary and will be announced by your instructor. Come prepared having read the assigned chapters for the week.

Dropbox Assignment 1 (Online)
This week, you’ll conduct your own independent research to learn about the small claims court system. Details will be posted in class under Content, Week 1 - due by 11:59 pm Sunday. Upload your assignment to the Week 1 Dropbox.

Week 2 – Criminal and Tort Law

Readings (Before Class)
- Ch. 6 Intentional Torts and Business Torts
- Ch. 7 Negligence and Strict Liability
- Ch. 8 Crime
Discussion 2 (Online)

This week we’ll discuss criminal law and the law of torts. Details will be posted in class under Content, Week 2 - due by 11:59 pm Friday. Post responses to at least two other students’ postings by 11:59 pm Sunday.

Participation 2 (In Class)

Participation activities vary and will be announced by your instructor. Come prepared having read the assigned chapters for the week.

Quiz 1 (Online)

This is a TIMED, ONLINE quiz (30 points) consisting of true/false and multiple-choice questions. The quiz will contain questions derived from Week 1 and 2 topics. The quiz will be available 5am Friday and will close 11:59 pm Sunday. You are allotted 45 minutes for the quiz.

Week 3 – Contracts

Readings (Before Class)

● Ch. 10 Introduction to Contracts
● Ch. 11 The Agreement: Offers and Acceptances
● Ch. 12 Consideration

Discussion 3 (Online)

This week we’ll explore the basics of contract law in class. Details will be posted in class under Content, Week 3 - due by 11:59 pm Friday. Post responses to at least two other students’ postings by 11:59 pm Sunday.

Participation 3 (In Class)

Participation activities vary and will be announced by your instructor. Come prepared having read the assigned chapters for the week.

Quiz 2 (Online)

This is a TIMED, ONLINE quiz (15 points) consisting of true/false and multiple-choice questions. The quiz will contain questions derived from Week 3 topics. The quiz will be available 5am Friday and will close 11:59 pm Sunday. You are allotted 30 minutes for the quiz.

Week 4 – Contracts, Continued

Readings (Before Class)

● Ch. 13 Legality
● Ch. 14 Voidable Contracts: Capacity and Consent

Discussion 4 (Online)

This week we’ll continue to learn about the basics for a valid contract including legality, capacity, and consent. Details will be posted in class under Content, Week 4 - due by 11:59 pm Friday. Post responses to at least two other students’ postings by 11:59 pm Sunday.

Midterm Exam (Online)

The mid-term examination may only be taken WEDNESDAY – SATURDAY. Failure to take the exam on these dates will result in ZERO credit. The examination is a TIMED, ONLINE exam. The exam may consist of multiple-choice, true/false, matching, fill in the blank, and short answer questions. The exam will encompass all of the chapters covered in Weeks 1 – 4. Time allotted will be posted during Week 4.
To prepare for the examination, you are encouraged to take the online quizzes that are part of the textbook resources, as well as review class discussions and lecture materials. To help you study, I will also post a general listing of test subjects under course Content. A link to the online textbook quizzes will also be provided in class under Content.

**Participation 4 (In Class)**

Participation activities vary and will be announced by your instructor. Come prepared having read the assigned chapters for the week.

**Week 5– Contracts, Continued**

**Readings (Before Class)**

- Ch. 15   Written Contracts
- Ch. 17   Performance and Discharge
- Ch. 18   Remedies

**Discussion 5 (Online)**

This week we’ll explore the types of contracts that are required to be in writing and what happens if a contract is breached. Details will be posted in class under Content, Week 5 - due by 11:59 pm Friday. Post responses to at least two other students’ postings by 11:59 pm Sunday.

**Participation 5 (In Class)**

Participation activities vary and will be announced by your instructor. Come prepared having read the assigned chapters for the week.

**Dropbox Assignment 2 (Online)**

For this Dropbox assignment, students will answer textbook questions. Details will be posted in class under Content, Week 5. Upload your document to the Week 5 Dropbox by 11:59 pm Sunday.

**Week 6– Agency Law and Business Organizations**

**Readings (Before Class)**

- Ch. 28   Agency Law
- Ch. 31   Starting a Business, LLCs and Other Options
- Ch. 32   Partnerships

**Discussion 6 (Online)**

This week we’ll explore the fundamentals of agency law and we’ll start our exploration of business entities. Details will be posted in class under Content, Week 6 - due by 11:59 pm Friday. Post responses to at least two other students’ postings by 11:59 pm Sunday.

**Participation 6 (In Class)**

Participation activities vary and will be announced by your instructor. Come prepared having read the assigned chapters for the week.

**Quiz 3 (Online)**

This is a TIMED, ONLINE quiz (30 points) consisting of true/false and multiple-choice questions. The quiz will contain questions derived from Week 5 and 6 topics. The quiz will be available 5am Friday and will close 11:59 pm Sunday (central time). **You are allotted 45 minutes for the quiz.**

**Course Evaluation (Online)**

Starting this week you have the opportunity to evaluate this course. Course evaluations opened on Sunday of Week 5 and will remain open until Thursday of Week 7. A link will be sent to your
CougarMail that will allow you to access the evaluation. Be assured that the evaluations are anonymous and that I will not be able to see them until after final grades are submitted.

**Week 7– Business Organizations, Continued**

**Readings (Before Class)**

- Ch. 33  Life and Death of a Corporation
- Ch. 34  Corporate Management
- Ch. 35  Shareholders

**Discussion 7 (Online)**

This week we examine the law of corporations and discuss real world applications of these principles. Details will be posted in class under Content, Week 7 - due by 11:59 pm Friday. Post responses to at least two other students' postings by 11:59 pm Sunday.

**Participation 7 (In Class)**

Participation activities vary and will be announced by your instructor. Come prepared having read the assigned chapters for the week.

**Plagiarism Quiz (Online)**

Any time prior to Week 7, you must take the Plagiarism Quiz. While the quiz is not graded, your submission of this quiz is required before you will be able to see the Week 7 dropbox and upload your paper.

**Dropbox Assignment (Online)**

In conjunction with this week's readings, you'll research and write about a specific corporation. Details will be posted in class under Week 7, Content - due by 11:59 pm Thursday in Week 8. Upload your paper to the Week 7 Dropbox. You may NOT use any work from a previous course related to this topic.

**Course Evaluation (Online)**

Complete the course evaluation by Thursday of this week (Week 7). To access the evaluations, please check your CougarMail for an email with the link.

**Week 8– Property and Landlord Tenant Law**

**Readings (Before Class)**

- Ch. 43  Real Property and Landlord Tenant Law (OMIT "Nonposessory Interests," “Adverse Possession," and "Land Use Regulation” pp 1094-1101)
- Ch. 44  Personal Property and Bailment

**Discussion 8 (Online)**

This week we explore the differences between real and personal property, and landlord tenant obligations. Details will be posted in class under Content, Week 8 - due by 11:59 pm THURSDAY in the Week 8. Post responses to at least two other students' postings by 11:59 pm FRIDAY.

**Participation 8 (In Class)**

Participation activities vary and will be announced by your instructor. Come prepared having read the assigned chapters for the week.

**Final Exam (2 Parts):** WED–SAT. ONLINE, TIMED, FINAL EXAMINATION.
• **Part I** – (objective questions)
• **Part II** – (fill in the blank, short answer and essay). Time allotted will be posted during Week 8.

The exam will primarily focus on the chapters covered in Weeks 5-8, but it will also contain some comprehensive questions covering materials from Weeks 1-8. The examination may consist of a combination of true false, multiple-choice, fill in the blank, matching questions, short answer and a few essay questions.

**The exam will be available online 5:00 am on Wednesday – Saturday; you must complete and submit your exam answers no later than 11:59 pm Saturday.** You can only log on and take the exam one time. Failure to complete the exam within the prescribed time period or on the specified dates will result in a ZERO.

To prepare for the examination, you are encouraged to take the online quizzes that are part of the textbook resources, review class discussions and lecture materials. To help you study, I will also post a general listing of test subjects under course Content.

When responding to essay questions appropriate use of key terms is essential. Be sure to address all of the issues in the hypothetical. You will earn points by spotting issues, addressing the issues, and reaching a well-reasoned conclusion.

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**Course Policies**

**Student Conduct**

All Columbia College students, whether enrolled in a land-based or online course, are responsible for behaving in a manner consistent with Columbia College’s Student Conduct Code and Acceptable Use Policy. Students violating these policies will be referred to the office of Student Affairs and/or the office of Academic Affairs for possible disciplinary action. The Student Code of Conduct and the Computer Use Policy for students can be found in the Columbia College Student Handbook. The Handbook is available online; you can also obtain a copy by calling the Student Affairs office (Campus Life) at 573-875-7400. The teacher maintains the right to manage a positive learning environment, and all students must adhere to the conventions of online etiquette.

**Plagiarism**

Your grade will be based in large part on the originality of your ideas and your written presentation of these ideas. Presenting the words, ideas, or expression of another in any form as your own is plagiarism. Students who fail to properly give credit for information contained in their written work (papers, journals, exams, etc.) are violating the intellectual property rights of the original author. For proper citation of the original authors, you should reference the appropriate publication manual for your degree program or course (APA, MLA, etc.). Violations are taken seriously in higher education and may result in a failing grade on the assignment, a grade of “F” for the course, or dismissal from the College.

Collaboration conducted between students without prior permission from the instructor is considered plagiarism and will be treated as such. Spouses and roommates taking the same course should be particularly careful.

All required papers may be submitted for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers may be included in the Turnitin.com reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. This service is subject to the Terms and Conditions of Use posted on the Turnitin.com site.
A plagiarism tutorial is located in the content area of the D2L website. Additionally, work that was completed in a prior course and submitted in the current course will not be accepted.

**Non-Discrimination**

There will be no discrimination on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, religion, ideology, political affiliation, veteran status, age, physical handicap, or marital status.

**Disability Services**

Students with documented disabilities who may need academic services for this course are required to register with the Coordinator for Disability Services at (573) 875-7626. Until the student has been cleared through the disability services office, accommodations do not have to be granted. If you are a student who has a documented disability, it is important for you to read the entire syllabus before enrolling in the course. The structure or the content of the course may make an accommodation not feasible.

**Attendance Policy**

Attendance for a week will be counted as having submitted a course assignment *for which points have been earned* during that week of the session or if the proctoring information has been submitted or the plagiarism quiz taken if there is no other assignment due that week. A class week is defined as the period of time between Monday and Sunday (except for Week 8, when the week and the course will end on Saturday at midnight). The course and system deadlines are all based on the Central Time Zone.

**Email**

All students are provided a CougarMail account when they enroll in classes at Columbia College. You are responsible for monitoring email from that account for important messages from the College and from your instructor. You may forward your Cougar email account to another account; however, the College cannot be held responsible for breaches in security or service interruptions with other email providers.

Students should use email for *private* messages to the instructor and other students. The class discussions are for *public* messages so the class members can each see what others have to say about any given topic and respond.

**Late Assignment Policy**

A hybrid class requires regular participation and a commitment to your instructor and your classmates to regularly engage in the reading, discussion and writing assignments. Although most of the communication for this course is asynchronous, you must be able to commit to the schedule of work for the class for the next eight weeks. You must keep up with the schedule of reading and writing to successfully complete the class.

**Course Evaluation**

You will have an opportunity to evaluate the course near the end of the session. A link will be sent to your CougarMail that will allow you to access the evaluation. Be assured that the evaluations are anonymous and that your instructor will not be able to see them until after final grades are submitted.
Additional Resources

Orientation for New Students
This course is offered online, using course management software provided by Desire2Learn and Columbia College. The Student Manual provides details about taking an online course at Columbia College. You may also want to visit the course demonstration to view a sample course before this one opens.

Technical Support
If you have problems accessing the course or posting your assignments, contact your instructor, the Columbia College Helpdesk, or the D2L Helpdesk for assistance. Contact information is also available within the online course environment.

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<th></th>
<th><a href="mailto:CCHelpDesk@ccis.edu">CCHelpDesk@ccis.edu</a></th>
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<th>877-325-7778</th>
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Online Tutoring
Smarthinking is a free online tutoring service available to all Columbia College students. Smarthinking provides real-time online tutoring and homework help for Math, English, and Writing.
Smarthinking also provides access to live tutorials in writing and math, as well as a full range of study resources, including writing manuals, sample problems, and study skills manuals. You can access the service from wherever you have a connection to the Internet. I encourage you to take advantage of this free service provided by the college.

Access Smarthinking through CougarTrack under Students->Academics->Academic Resources.